

TO WORKERS' HEALTH

One Taken by British Authorities—Might Be Worthy of Study.

Deeply the British committee on the health of munition workers has the subject is indicated by its title. It is concerned with the conditions of work and living of women and girls outside of their working hours. Much importance attaches to the subject because of the necessity which has arisen to transport a great many of them from their homes to distant places where their work is required. These are some of the committee's conclusions:

All women and girls before being transported should be examined by a doctor or a nurse working under his supervision.

Inquiry should be made before transportation as to the age and number of children of married women, and the arrangements proposed to be made for their care.

Advice should be given before transportation to every woman and girl to provide herself with sufficient change of clothing and enough money for emergency expenses on the journey.

A clearing or reception house should be provided where women and girls can be housed for a night or two, until suitable lodgings are found for them.

Much of the success of a hostel depends upon the character of the superintendent and her staff. As much freedom as is compatible with good order should be allowed.

Lodgings should be obtained to suit varying classes of lodgers. Standards of accommodation at varying rates should be laid down.

Reasonable facilities for the transit of workers to and from the factories should, as far as possible, be arranged.

Arrangements for the notification of illness in lodgings should be made and enforced.

A special committee of women (preferably married women and medical women) should be formed to keep in touch with maternity cases.

Organized means of recreation and of wholesome employment of leisure should be provided.

For the preservation of order and for preventive work policewomen should be appointed, assisted where desirable by voluntary woman patrols.

ARMY CLOTHES SHOPS.

The war department is going to revolutionize methods of manufacture of army clothing through a new form of contracts. Manufacturers will be assured a good profit, but will have to guarantee fair wages to employees, proper working conditions, and well-paid workers.

The government proposes to enforce such conditions, once the contracts are signed. The form was worked up by the board of control for labor standards, recently appointed by Secretary Baker, following disclosures of sweat-shop methods in the manufacture of army clothing. Louis Kirstein is chairman.

Discovery May Revolutionize Warfare

Washington.—Will a single stroke of American inventive genius win this world war, as it has won every other war in which the United States has taken part? Despite President Wilson's warning that the country must not sit back and wait for an invention, Washington is excited over a new power system that will, if its inventor's claims materialize, revolutionize warfare overnight and end the conflict as suddenly, with America victorious. The system is a "free energy generator," and its inventor is Garabed T. K. Giragossian, an Armenian mechanic, who has been working on his plan in Boston the greater part of 26 years. So radical are his assertions that they would be dismissed with a shrug and a smile, had he not, in secret demonstrations, backed up his statements.

World's Losses in Shipping.

London.—The total of all losses to world's shipping since Germany's ruthless U-boat war went into effect aggregates about two-thirds of those claimed by the Germans in a statement issued September 1. At that time the Germans alleged that an average of 900,000 tons had been sunk monthly for seven months. The actual totals of tonnage sunk compiled here show that not even during the most successful month for the U-boats—April—have the figures reached such proportions, while the August losses dropped to almost half the April figure.

Mayor To Seize Coal

Bellefontaine, O.—With a fuel famine here, not a pound of coal being for sale, a pile of more than 10,000 tons stored by the Big Four railway in its yard here is burning. Efforts to purchase the coal from the railway company have proved unavailing, but Mayor Kennedy said that unless dealers receive a supply he expects to seize enough coal from the railway company to relieve distress.

I. W. W. Suspected.

Dayton, O.—Industrial Workers of the World are believed to have destroyed army advertising literature and pasted I. W. W. stickers on posters. It is probable that United States secret service men will be sent to Dayton in an effort to round up members of the organization. Sergeant Theodore Jung has notified the Cincinnati Recruiting Office of the circumstances.

STRIKES CURTAIL WAR INDUSTRIES

MOVES GOVERNMENT TO SEEK LABOR PANACEA—OUTPUT CURTAILED BY UNREST.

Workers Moving From Plant to Plant—Eventual Policy Rests on Western Junket of Commission Headed By Secretary Wm. Wilson.

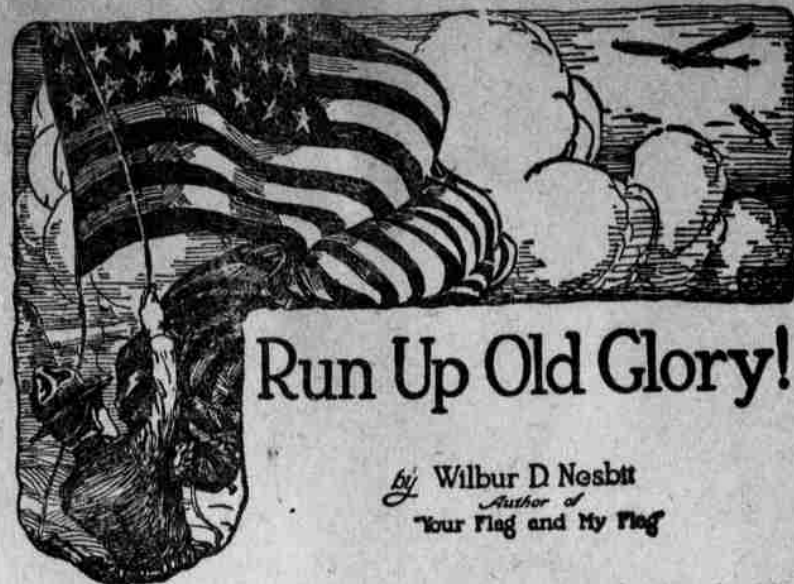
Western Newspaper Union News Service

Washington.—The Government is working to develop some comprehensive system of dealing with the labor unrest which threatens to hamper war production. It is concerned over the pronounced upward movement of wages, disproportionate for various industries, and the difficulty of stabilizing conditions without doing injustice to workers or employers. Nearly all production now directly or indirectly is necessary for the prosecution of the war, and the output of war material is curtailed by strikes, extraordinary movement of workers from one industry to another, or from plant to plant, and other unsettled conditions. On the recommendations of the commission, headed by Secretary Wilson, of the Department of Labor, which left for the West, largely depend the Government's eventual policy.

Meanwhile, it is understood the Government's course will be:

To extend to industries having war contracts the present system of wage adjustment boards, which have been created for cantonment construction, shipbuilding, longshoremen's work and army and navy clothing production. To increase the number of War Department contracts containing clauses providing that in case of suspension of work by strikes, the Secretary of War shall settle the disputes. To enforce agreements with industries for whose products standard prices are fixed, not to reduce wages. To encourage employers to form associations by industry groups to deal collectively with labor demands, and to press informally for adjustment of disagreements before they reach the strike stage, under the implied pressure of the Government's war power to commandeer and operate plants.

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Run Up Old Glory!

by Wilbur D Nesbitt
Author of
"Your Flag and My Flag"

Run up Old Glory!

Let it blaze

In red and white against the sky
And tell the story of the days
When hearts were stout and hopes were high
Forget the daily fights of greed,
Forget the struggles, the dismay
Of facing cruelty and need—
Run up Old Glory for the day.

Run up Old Glory!

Think of all

The old flag means to you and me,
Of how the blast of freedom's call
Shook out its folds from sea to sea,
Red with the blood that it has cost,
White with the souls of them that died—
To-day by laughing breezes tossed
It whispers of a nation's pride.

Run up Old Glory!

Fling it forth

And feel anew the country-call
That thrills East, West and South and North
And has its word for one and all.
Run up Old Glory—fling it far
Across the blue of heaven's dome,
And feel that every stripe and star
Is warder of your hearth and home.



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"No men living are more worthy to be trusted than those who toil up from poverty, none less inclined to take or touch aught which they have not honestly earned."—Abraham Lincoln.

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LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE FOR KENTUCKY
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Bisbee Departs I. W. W.'s Again.

Trains left Bisbee, Ariz., for the West recently carrying alleged I. W. W. members and sympathizers who had been given a few hours to leave Bisbee or be tried on vagrancy charges. Two men were permitted to remain to get money out of the bank and all were allowed to obtain their personal effects.

Only one man remained when given the alternative of leaving or facing trial for vagrancy, which carries the possibility of 90 days in jail. He was fined \$90 and appealed his case.

A number of men have been held for the federal authorities as alleged draft evaders.

Carmen to Admit Women.

The national convention of the Brotherhood of Railway Carmen, in session at Fort Worth, Tex., decided to increase the salaries of all general officers of the organization; to admit women into full membership where they are doing men's work, and to continue the per capita support of the auxiliary, the Loyal Star.

The convention also endorsed the eight-hour day for carmen and shop employees as well as for the transportation men.

Old Men Better Workers.

Youth cannot stand the strain of steady application to certain kinds of work, and substitution of old men for boys in factories is proving satisfactory, according to E. I. Du Brul of Cincinnati. Mr. Du Brul details his observations in an article in the current issue of American Industries.

Women Hired as Painters.

Conemaugh division of the Pennsylvania railroad has increased its force of painters by the addition of three young women from Saxenburg. The men admit that the girls are efficient and can do the work.

It is estimated that aside from domestic servants and women at work in military, naval and Red Cross hospitals, 5,000,000 women are now employed in agricultural, clerical and industrial occupations in Great Britain.

Although agreements exist between the Brewery Workers' union and employers of Philadelphia, the latter have voluntarily raised wages on the claim of their employees that this was necessary to meet the high cost of living.

These facts Britain found that munitions and the other necessities of war could be produced in undreamed-of quantities.

So vast have been the changes that Sidney Webb, the famous economist, has said that "no such sweeping transformation in the organization of British industry—a transformation not occurring in one trade only, but simultaneously in nearly all branches of manufacture—has taken place since what is known as the industrial revolution of 1780-1825. The present revolution, compressed within little over a couple of years, has been rendered possible only by the abrogation of the network of usages and regulations, customs and rules which the trade unions so patriotically allowed 'for the duration of the war.'"

The conclusion is becoming stronger that previous conditions cannot be restored. The hands of the clock cannot be turned back. The way of life of an epoch that has ended cannot be resurrected, however ardently it may be desired.

The British people are therefore presented with a first-class dilemma. They have either to attempt the impossible and perhaps the undesirable or else they have to break a sacred promise. In a small volume issued by B. W. Huebsch of New York Sidney Webb offers one suggestive escape from the impasse.

He admits the impossibility of ability to restore 1914 conditions. He warns his country, however, that smooth attempts to patch up compromises, to effect "a sham restoration," will lead only to bitterness. For a generation at least he insists that workmen would talk of the "great betrayal." That kind of class enmity would inevitably result in endless strikes and the practice of "caanny," the British equivalent of sabotage.

Consequently Mr. Webb sees only one satisfactory remedy. This is far-reaching and fundamental. It is summed up in a program which he calls "a new settlement."

Very naturally he found that the objects the unionists sought were humanly correct if scientifically inefficient. They wanted to assure themselves against unemployment. Consequently they wanted a monopoly of the work in their craft. They wanted to assure a living wage and a decent standard of life to themselves. Accordingly they limited definitely the amount of work which they would do at a given wage. They wanted, moreover, a vote in the determination of the conditions under which their working life should be passed.

In many cases the jobs of the old unionists no longer exist. New machinery, enormous engineering reorganization, new forms of specialization, the division of old tasks, the creation of simplified work, have cumulatively made it impossible for the trade unionists to attain their human ends in the old way. But Mr. Webb insists a similar or greater satisfaction can be obtained through a new settlement.

This in the first place would prevent unemployment. The government can practically eliminate the periodic slackenings of industry by planning its own work long years ahead. This in no wise includes emergency building for relief purposes. The nation would simply, by taking thought, fit its constructive program into the varying employment needs of the empire.

A second element in the new settlement would be the legal establishment of a minimum—not a maximum—wage in each industry. That minimum would not be the least at which human life might be preserved. It would be the customary wage in each trade. It would protect the worker against the perpetual fear of reduced wages which is his incentive toward reducing the output.

Organize Federal Employees.

Organization of a national federal employees' union was begun at Washington by delegates representing federal workers in every section of the country. It is expected that the organization when completed will comprise 15,000 members.

Virden (Ill.) Co-operative society paid a dividend of 10 per cent to its membership on the basis of purchases during the last quarter.

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